

TEAMWORK IS ESSENTIAL

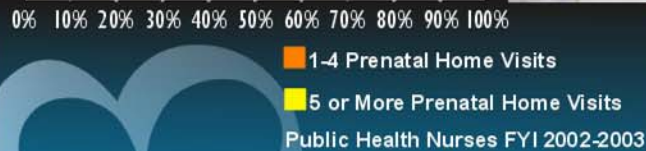
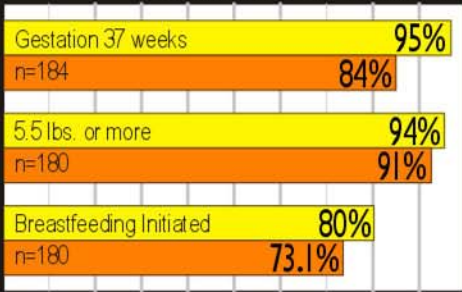
when promoting and protecting the

health of populations and individuals

Madres Saludables (Healthy Mothers) participate in a health education class lead by bilingual public health nurse, Jane Linsenmeyer.



Health Outcomes - Maternal Child Clients
Public Health Nurses - FY 2002-2003



Of the infants born to WIC mothers, 6.6% are low birth weight

SOURCE: Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department



Improving Health Outcomes for Women, Infants and Children

As part of a Departmental priority to reduce infant deaths and improve birth outcomes, the LLCHD WIC Program focuses on pregnant women and infants. Of the 2,032 WIC participants, 33% are pregnant women - the highest proportion per caseload in the state. 49.2% (265) pregnant women stopped smoking during pregnancy through post-partum while participating in the program. In addition, 65% of all infants are breastfed.

Home and Community Based Services

Because tougher economic times have meant fewer resources for pregnant women at risk, this year the public health nurses have focused on gathering data to evaluate outcomes of home visits with current resources. A special project looked at health outcomes for women identified to have the highest risk for poor birth outcomes (including prematurity and low-birth weight). The study revealed that those women receiving 5 or more home visits with a public health nurse were more likely to have a normal birth weight baby and to breastfeed in the neonatal period.



The SmokeFree Program

Due to the negative effects smoking has on pregnancy outcomes (prematurity, low birth weight and higher infant mortality), LLCHD has implemented The Smoke Free Program. All pregnant women seen in the Department are assessed for smoking behaviors. Approximately 1,200 pregnant women are assisted with the application process for Medicaid each month and 44% are smokers.

Access Medicaid

During 2002-2003, Access Medicaid worked with an average of 18,500 medicaid eligible clients per month in Lancaster County. Three focus areas during this year were addressing the needs of newly eligible pregnant women each month, helping clients to understand legislative changes impacting Medicaid eligibility through expanded outreach programs and addressing the needs of our physician community through targeted outreach.

Clinic Services



Dr. Glen Lau, volunteer physician, and public health nurse, Lori Heuertz, provide health care to a patient. The Department works closely with the Lancaster County Commissioners and General Assistance Program, to assure access to health care for the most needy citizens. The clinic served more than 2,350 clients last year.

Dental Health

The UNMC College of Dentistry and the Dental Health Division have a long collaborative history of providing services for at-risk adults. Through grant funds, the College of Dentistry has partnered with the Dental Health Division to provide services for at-risk adults that the Dental Health Division has been unable to provide due to the complexity of the services. The total value of the treatment services provided by the College of Dentistry was \$94,574 at a cost to the supporting grants of \$45,787.

